



Sunday, February 12, 2017
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Worship at 9:30 AM

GATHERING

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

Welcome to worship at Vinje Lutheran Church. We want you to know that you are very welcome here. We want this to be a safe place, where we can bring our best and our worst, our peace and our pain. This is a place of healing and reconciliation.

And now let us stand as we are able, to confess our brokenness and to hear God's word of forgiveness.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ✝ Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

What Is This Place

Hymnal #524

1 What is this place where we are meeting?
Only a house, the earth its floor.
Walls and a roof sheltering people,
windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives
when we are gathered here,
and know our God is near.

2 Words from afar, stars that are falling,
sparks that are sown in us like seed:
names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders
sent from the past are all we need.
We in this place remember and speak
again what we have heard:
God's free redeeming word.

3 And we accept bread at this table,
broken and shared, a living sign.
Here in this world, dying and living,
we are each other's bread and wine.
This is the place where we can receive
what we need to increase:
our justice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

WORD

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Bible pg. 163

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that

you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

(The Saint John's Bible print depicting this scripture passage hangs in the Prayer Room, Room 101, near the west entry)

Please stand, as you are able

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia

Hymnal #170



Alleluia. You are the light | of the world.* A city set upon a hill can- | not be hid. *Alleluia.* (Matt. 5:14)

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37

Bible pg. 786

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 5th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to the disciples: "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last

penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

The Gospel of our Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Message

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song

Hymn of the Day There's a Wideness in God's Mercy Hymnal #587

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.

2 There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior;

there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

- 3 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;
it is something more than all:
greater good because of evil,
larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful;
let us take you at your word,
and our lives will be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

Apostles' Creed

Hymnal pg. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Hymnal #752

At the conclusion of each petition, the assembly sings:

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

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Peace

MEAL

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Anthem during the offering

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Claude L. Bass

Offertory For Such a Time as This

Could it be that we are called for such a time as this?
Could it be that we are called for such a time as this?

Other verses:

... that you are called
... that I am called

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Offering Prayer

Merciful God,
receive the gifts we bring,
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Through this meal unite us as your body,
shining with the light of your justice and mercy;
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.
Come. Be filled with light and life.

Music during Communion

Lamb of God

Hymnal pg. 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Hymn

Here is Bread

Hymnal #483

Here is bread here is wine
Christ is with us He is with us
Break the bread drink the wine
Christ is with us here

In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment by the Spirit
Christ is with us here

Here is grace here is peace
Christ is with us He is with us
Know His grace find His peace
Feast on Jesus here

In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment by the Spirit
Christ is with us here

Here we are joined in One
Christ is with us He is with us

We'll proclaim 'til He comes
Jesus crucified

In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment by the Spirit
Christ is with us here

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Hymn Be Thou My Vision Hymnal #793

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
 naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
 I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
 raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
 thou mine inheritance, now and always:
 thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
 great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
 may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
 Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
 still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Hymn O Master, Let Me Walk with You Hymnal #818

- 1 O Master, let me walk with you
 in lowly paths of service true;
 tell me your secret; help me bear
 the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move

by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me your patience; share with me
a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,

4 In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give;
with you, O Master, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Prayer after Communion

O Morning Star, fair and bright,
you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.
You are our dearest treasure.
Go with us now—
today, tomorrow, every day—
that we tell the story of your never-ending love
and sing your praise both now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Sending Song

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen Hymnal #548

- 1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,
from this meal of love and grace;
may we through such love envision
whose we are, and whose, our praise.
Alleluia, alleluia;
God, the wonder of our days.
- 2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow
after Christ, though wounded, whole;
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed
to release and to console.
Alleluia, alleluia;
Christ, our present, past, and goal.
- 3 Rise, remember well the future
God has called us to receive;
present by God's loving nurture,
Spirited then let us live.
Alleluia, alleluia;
Spirit, grace by whom we live.
- 4 Service be our sure vocation;
courage be our daily breath;
mercy be our destination
from this day and unto death.
Alleluia, alleluia.
Rise, O church, a living faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

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Dismissal*Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.***Thanks be to God.****Postlude**